



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 31 March 2008

Current Nationwide



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- The Associated Press reports a man fatally shot three people Thursday at a Columbus, Georgia, hospital. Police shot the man, who is being charged with murder and will be turned over to police after an overnight stay in another hospital. (See item [28](#))
- According to the Examiner, the District of Columbia Police Department will spend about \$1.2 million to provide security at Nationals games, nearly doubling its presence from last year while assigning officers from around the city to ballpark duty, officials said. (See item [37](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *March 27, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Citations issued in coal mining death.** Kentucky mine safety officials have issued multiple citations in the death of an eastern Kentucky coal truck driver who was killed at Blue Ridge surface mine in Letcher County in January. Authorities said the man died after his truck backed over a dumping point and continued to go down the slope. The man was employed by Bates Contracting in Whitesburg. An investigation by the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing released Wednesday says the crash could have been prevented if the operator, Cumberland River Coal, had followed state law. Investigators said the safety barrier near the edge of the dump site was constructed with damp soil and ranged in height from 17 to 46 inches.

The barrier was supposed to be sturdy and tall enough to allow a rock truck's wheels to back against it, but not roll over it.

Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/471/story/358470.html>

2. *March 27, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Santee Cooper raises cost of coal-fired power plant.** The South Carolina state-owned utility Santee Cooper says the cost of a coal-fired power plant has increased from \$998 million to \$1.25 billion. A Santee Cooper spokesperson told the Post and Courier of Charleston that increasing costs for concrete, steel, and other materials have raised the cost of the plant on the Pee Dee River. She also said the costs of new pollution-control equipment and delays in getting state and federal permits also increased the price. Santee Cooper said it needs the plant in operation by 2012 to avoid brownouts and blackouts. An attorney with the Southern Environmental Law Center said the higher estimate is still too low.

Source: <http://www.charlotte.com/205/story/554724.html>

3. *March 27, Wichita Eagle* – (Kansas) **Report highlights coal uncertainty.** A new study of a proposed coal-fired complex in western Kansas finds that it comes loaded with carbon-related financial risks that have not been properly accounted for by its developers. Financial adviser group Innovest released Tuesday a report that analyzed the risks and benefits of Sunflower Electric Corp.'s proposed expansion near Holcomb. The report finds that while the Sunflower expansion would provide additional baseload capacity, "the carbon risks associated with an increased reliance on coal present significant financial risks for the company's owners and ratepayers." Assuming carbon regulation costs based on prevailing market rates of between \$21 and \$48 per ton, the Holcomb plant could cost Sunflower ratepayers "between \$22.4 million and \$51.36 million annually," the study found. The analysis concludes that "Sunflower has failed to account for likely regulatory scenarios, and will therefore expose its ratepayers to the significant financial exposure associated with a strategic focus on developing new coal capacity."

Source: <http://www.kansas.com/611/story/353377.html>

4. *March 27, KRGV 5 Brownsville* – (Texas) **Pipeline dangers.** News channel 5 uncovered the potential danger caused by natural gas pipelines in Texas, under Valley neighborhoods. Six weeks ago, a natural gas pipeline exploded in McCook; the fire was 400 feet high. News channel 5 spent the past six weeks traveling across Texas, digging up documents, and tracing a trail of pipelines. "We have a very volatile situation," said a north Texas farmer, testifying to the Railroad Commission in Austin about the danger of natural gas pipelines. He said worn-out pipelines are leaking natural gas, polluting his land, and putting lives at risk. "They're just sitting out there waiting and rusting, waiting to explode," he said. Railroad Commission documents show some of the natural gas pipelines in the Valley counties are over five decades old. HESCO Gathering Company, which owns the pipeline that blew up in McCook, said they are still waiting on lab reports to confirm the official cause of the McCook explosion, but said it was likely a "corrosion issue."

Source: <http://www.newschannel5.tv/2008/3/27/988815/Pipeline-Dangers>

5. *March 27, Dayton Daily News* – (Ohio) **Is wind energy safe for birds, bats?** With the Ohio governor's efforts to explore the increased use of wind energy, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) wants to know about the effect wind turbines will have on native and migrating wildlife, mainly birds and bats. To do that, the Division of Wildlife has hired a wildlife biologist whose area of expertise is bat and bird activity. He will study the impact that the rotating blades of wind turbines have on the approximately 300 species of birds, nine species of bats, and other wild animals. "As Ohio moves into the realm of wind-based energy, it's important that we do so in a socially and environmentally responsible way," said the ODNR director. "Helping developers' site wind turbines so that the impacts to birds and other wildlife are minimized is one way of accomplishing that objective."

Source:

<http://www.daytondailynews.com/s/content/oh/story/recreation/2008/03/27/ddn032708jmor.html>

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Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to Report

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *March 28, Washington Post* – (National) **Defense secretary orders nuclear inventory.** The U.S. defense secretary has ordered a complete inventory of the nation's nuclear arsenal and all associated components after the discovery last week that four secret nuclear missile parts had been mistakenly sent to Taiwan, an error that went unnoticed for more than 18 months. The defense secretary had already ordered a high-level investigation into how the four nose-cone fuse assemblies for U.S. intercontinental ballistic missiles were shipped overseas in place of common helicopter batteries. He has ordered the Air Force, the Navy, and the Defense Logistics Agency to take inventory of and assess control measures for all nuclear weapons and their associated parts within 60 days, "to verify positive control and accountability of all such materials," according to a memo released Thursday. Early indications are that the nose cones' outer packaging was mislabeled, and an investigation aims to determine how a string of security failures occurred.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/story/2008/03/27/ST2008032703552.html>

7. *March 28, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **EPA is asked to move radioactive waste.** Bridgeton, Missouri, community members urged federal environmental regulators Thursday to remove radioactive waste from a local landfill which they say is vulnerable to flooding from the nearby Missouri River. Those comments were made during a meeting sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is once again seeking public input on its plan for the 200-acre West Lake landfill, a

Superfund site slated for federal cleanup. The public has until April 9 to give comments on the proposed cleanup plan. EPA officials have said leaving the waste in the landfill is less risky than digging it up and shipping it elsewhere. They plan to monitor groundwater at the site to ensure that pollution is not escaping the landfill.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/5D16F5EC35F9B7FF8625741A00108C05?OpenDocument>

8. *March 28, Tri-Valley Herald* – (California) **Plutonium makes its way out of Livermore.** Another shipment of weapons-grade nuclear material has made its way out of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) reported Thursday. Together with two previous shipments, this brings the total amount of plutonium and highly-enriched uranium down 25 percent. The lab is on track to completely shed its nuclear material by 2012 as part of the NNSA's plan to consolidate the material at fewer sites to reduce the cost of protecting it. In the meantime, the plutonium is adequately protected, said an NNSA administrator, but Livermore Lab will not get the same permanent security upgrades that other sites are getting because the material will be moved. A critic said the "plutonium is vulnerable today to a catastrophic release in an earthquake or terrorist attack" and "can be taken out by 2010 safely."

Source: http://www.insidebayarea.com/trivalleyherald/localnews/ci_8726767

9. *March 27, Platts* – (Missouri) **NRC cites Callaway for security guard violation.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) cited Callaway for a "deliberate" violation by a security guard at the AmerenUE plant. According to a March 20 letter, released March 27, the former employee of security contractor Wackenhut Corp. willfully violated NRC requirements. The guard, who was armed, "was aware of being drowsy and was aware of the direction provided by Wackenhut Security Services that when drowsy, he should stand up or call for assistance, but he decided to do neither," the letter said. NRC said it is taking "escalated enforcement" action in response to the violation. Escalated enforcement can include civil penalties such as fines. According to the letter, details of the violation are contained in a notice of violation, an inspection report, and a report by NRC's Office of Investigations, but those documents were not released.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Nuclear/News/7880902.xml?sub=Nuclear&p=Nuclear/News&?undefined&undefined>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

10. *March 28, Strategy Page* – (National) **Flight of the iron F-16.** A U.S. F-16 of the Vermont Air National Guard (VANG) set a record on March 24, when it became the first F-16C to spend 7,000 hours in the air. The F-16C was originally designed for a service life of 4,000 hours in the air. But advances in engineering, materials, and maintenance techniques have extended that to over 8,000 hours. The VANG aircraft will not see 8,000 hours, as it is headed for retirement, after more than two decades of

service. The VANG is getting some more recent F-16s as replacements.

Source: <http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htairfo/articles/20080328.aspx>

11. *March 27, Navy Times* – (National) **MSC ship recovers crashed AF F-15C fighters.**

The Military Sealift Command salvage ship Grasp recovered the last components of two Air Force F-15C fighters from beneath the Gulf of Mexico on Sunday after the planes collided in midair last month, killing one of their pilots. The Navy recovered more than half the parts from each plane, including their engines, data recorders, and main computers, which Air Force investigators hope will help them determine the cause of the February 20 crash.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/03/navy_af_salvage_080326w/

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *March 28, Boston Globe* – (National) **Advanced tactic targeted grocer.** A massive data breach at Hannaford Brothers Cos. was caused by a “new and sophisticated” method in which software was secretly installed on servers at every one of its grocery stores, the company told Massachusetts regulators this week. The unauthorized intrusion the company disclosed on March 17 stemmed from software that intercepted card data from customers as they paid with plastic at store checkout counters, and sent the data overseas, Hannaford’s top lawyer said in a letter sent to the attorney general and the governor’s Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation. The software was installed on computer servers at each of the roughly 300 stores operated by Hannaford and its partners. Hannaford did not say how the software might have been placed on so many servers, and a company spokeswoman said the company continues to investigate how the software was installed and other specifics of the breach. The Secret Service, which pursues currency crimes, is conducting its own investigation. Hannaford says it did not store customer information. The hackers who struck Hannaford mined a stream of data that the merchant and banks were not responsible for protecting under industry rules, industry specialists said. The Hannaford breach also poses worrisome questions for the payment industry as it struggles to tighten security. Hannaford, for example, had met compliance standards set by Visa Inc. and other card companies, but that did not stop the breach.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/business/articles/2008/03/28/advanced_tactic_targeted_grocer/

13. *March 27, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **Marylanders cash in on fake tax returns.**

Three Maryland residents have been indicted for allegedly filing fraudulent tax returns on behalf of state prison inmates and stealing about \$365,000. They are charged with fraud and identity theft for cases dating back to 2004. Prosecutors say the defendants filed false income tax returns and kept the refunds for more than 100 inmates. The inmates filled out the forms so the three could file the returns. Prosecutors say the defendants would share some of the refunds with inmates while using fake names to cover up their scheme.

Source: <http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=70077>

14. *March 27, Atlanta Constitution-Journal* – (Georgia) **Thief steals records of former, current DHR employees.** A thief has stolen computer records containing identifying information on current and former employees of the Georgia Department of Human Resources, including names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, and home contact information, officials said Thursday. DHR officials say the theft occurred about March 19. An external hard drive that stored a database was removed “by an unauthorized person,” according to a statement issued by the agency. The statement did not say how many employees are affected, but the agency employs about 19,000 people. The agency sent letters to all employees affected by the security breach, urging them to review all credit and other financial records. DHR officials said there is no evidence the information is being used fraudulently, and the theft remains under investigation.
Source: http://www.ajc.com/traffic/content/metro/stories/2008/03/27/theft_0328.html
15. *March 27, Reuters* – (National) **JPMorgan to pay \$2 mln to settle SEC fraud case.** JPMorgan Chase & Co. has agreed to pay \$2 million to settle charges its subsidiaries helped now-bankrupt National Century Financial Enterprises carry out a fraud that resulted in \$2.6 billion of investor losses, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission said on Thursday. The SEC said JPMorgan Chase Bank and Bank One served as indenture trustees for National Century, a Dublin, Ohio, healthcare financing company, from 1999 until 2002 when the company collapsed. The SEC said that JPMorgan helped National Century make large improper transfers among program accounts, which caused collateral shortfalls and contributed to the company’s downfall. JPMorgan settled without admitting or denying the charges.
Source:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/governmentFilingsNews/idUSN2745312520080327>
16. *March 27, Consumer Affairs* – (New Jersey; International) **Massive securities fraud ring exposed in New Jersey.** New Jersey officials say they have arrested 21 people in connection with a securities fraud scheme that scammed investors out of at least \$50 million. The state’s attorney general said the scheme, operating from Sao Paulo, Brazil and Miami, Florida, utilized the New Jersey securities market. The New Jersey Bureau of Securities initiated the investigation that later resulted in a joint investigative team consisting of the U.S. Department of Justice Fraud Task Force, FBI, U.S. Postal Inspectors, Securities and Exchange Commission, the Brazilian Federal Police, as well as the New Jersey authorities. Also arrested in Brazil were the “doleiros” or money launderers that assisted the organization by providing a complicated maze of bank accounts that quickly hid money sent in by the victims. The con artists used well-designed websites to fool their victims into believing that they were legitimate securities brokers. The perpetrators, in order to carry out their scheme, stole the identities of real New Jersey broker-dealers and created others that were fictitious, authorities said. In many instances, they even created false governmental entities that touted the legitimacy of the fictitious brokers. Additionally, voice over internet (VOIP) telephone providers were utilized so that the fictitious brokers had U.S. phone numbers even though they were located in Brazil and other countries. Representatives of the SEC have advised that for at least the last three years, this fraud scheme is responsible for the greatest number

of victim complaints received by them.

Source: http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2008/03/nj_securities_scam.html

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Transportation Sector

17. *March 28, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Jetliner blows 4 tires upon landing.** Continental Airlines says four tires blew out on a jetliner as it landed in Houston. A spokeswoman says no one was injured in Thursday's accident at Houston's Bush Intercontinental Airport. She says no emergency evacuation was needed. The plane was not making an emergency landing. The flight from Oklahoma City carried 113 passengers and a crew of five.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/03/28/jetliner.tires.ap/index.html>

18. *March 28, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Suspect arrested in Va. highway gunfire.** Authorities arrested a suspect early Friday in a series of highway shootings after storming a farm and firing at a man who met them with a handgun, police said. The 19 year-old was charged in separate shootings at a home and a credit union early Thursday morning, police said. He was not charged with the shootings along a rural stretch of Interstate 64, but authorities said more charges were possible. Authorities were still investigating whether a second person was involved in the highway shootings, but had not yet identified anyone, they said. The gunfire began early Thursday on Interstate 64 on a 20-mile stretch between Charlottesville and Waynesboro, Virginia. Gunshots hit two cars, a van, a tractor-trailer, another vehicle, and an unoccupied dump truck. Two people were injured, but not seriously. The shootings put motorists and police on edge in a region where memories of the deadly Beltway snipers still have not faded. Ten people were killed and three wounded in the 2002 attacks in Maryland, the District of Columbia, and northern Virginia.

Source:

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/I/INTERSTATE_SHOOTINGS?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2008-03-28-11-59-10

19. *March 28, Richmond- Times Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Amtrak delays possible today.** Amtrak is expecting delays and possible cancellations Friday after a freight train derailed just north of Richmond early Thursday, closing two tracks for more than 14 hours. By midafternoon, one track was open, allowing freight and passenger service to pass through the Richmond area. Amtrak is advising Richmond-area passengers with flexible schedules to hold off on travel until the weekend. An estimated 2,500 passengers along the Eastern seaboard were affected Thursday when a CSX freight train derailed at 12:18 a.m. about 500 yards north of an Amtrak Station. The derailed train was traveling southbound from Cumberland, Maryland, to Rocky Mount, North Carolina, with three locomotives pulling 81 freight cars. Passengers on the Virginia Railway Express commuter trains in Northern Virginia were not delayed and should not expect a disruption of service Friday unless freight traffic clogs up the tracks, said the manager of public affairs and government relations. No one was injured in the derailment, which occurred when the third locomotive and 14 cars jumped the tracks,

including four empty hazardous-materials cars. Three cars carrying sodium chlorate, an oxidizer used in paper bleaching, derailed, spilling about two pounds of the chemical. A car carrying sodium hydroxide also derailed but did not lose any of its cargo.

Source: <http://www.inrich.com/cva/ric/news/transportation.apx.-content-articles-RTD-2008-03-28-0150.html>

20. *March 28, Dallas Morning News* – (National) **FAA audit finding most airlines complying with safety programs.** The government audit of safety programs that prompted some airlines to ground jets last week has found “an extremely high compliance rate” with regulations, Federal Aviation Administration officials said Thursday. The FAA plans to announce the full results of its audit next Wednesday, the day before regulators are scheduled to appear before a congressional committee investigating the agency’s oversight of airline safety. In spite of hundreds of cancellations in recent days, the FAA said that the airlines’ programs for implementing safety rules are strong, said the FAA’s assistant administrator for communications. “Of the inspections that have been done thus far, less than one percent – a fraction of 1 percent – have been found to have been elevated to the level that you would call questions with compliance,” the official said. From Wednesday through Friday, Delta and American said they expect to cancel a total of more than 700 flights. The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has been investigating also Southwest’s lapse, as well as problems with other carriers. The committee is looking into the way the FAA administers its so-called partnership programs, which allow airlines to disclose errors and mistakes without being penalized. The programs are designed to collect information from the self-disclosure reports that could prevent similar problems at other airlines.

Source: http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/bus/stories/DN-aa_28bus.ART0.State.Edition1.4602236.html

21. *March 28, Radio World Online* – (National) **FAA pursues new testing in bird/tower debate.** According to the Christian Science Monitor, updates on communication towers “are one of the fastest-growing parts of the problem due to the U.S. passion for cellphones and high-definition television. Among about 96,000 towers listed in a federal database, some 22,000 new towers were listed as having gone up in just the past five years.” An appeals court recently ordered the FCC to provide more citizen input and comply with environmental laws when approving towers. The newspaper reports the FAA is pursuing a new round of testing to determine whether alternate lighting for towers would still be effective in alerting pilots and noted that the FCC is proposing the possibility of altering its lighting scheme for towers and soliciting public comment.

Source: <http://www.rwonline.com/pages/s.0100/t.12295.html>

22. *March 27, Government Executive* – (National) **TSA makes more modifications to screener pay system.** In an e-mail to employees, the Transportation Security Administration Administrator said the agency’s Performance and Accountability Standards System, which launched in 2006, has become “far too complicated” and has “distracted the workforce from its primary mission with its confusing procedures and burdensome administrative and testing requirements.” Changes to the pay system,

effective April 1, include the elimination of a test that measures screeners' knowledge of standard operating procedures in 2008. Officials instead will develop new training standards that employees will be required to pass. TSA also plans to tweak its image testing, which measures screeners' abilities to detect certain images on screening devices. The official acknowledged that screeners often are trained and tested on different standards, and he pledged to find a solution that would align training and testing but not adversely affect the workforce. In addition, the agency will reduce the amount of required training for TSA screeners in 2009.

Source: http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=39622&dcn=todaysnews

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to Report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *March 28, Associated Press* – (National) **School districts that got recalled beef are listed.** The Department of Agriculture on Thursday released a list of all school districts nationwide that received beef included in last month's recall of 143 million pounds of meat from a California slaughterhouse. The 226-page document, which the agency released under pressure from lawmakers, includes a list of so-called "school food authorities" — the rough equivalent of school districts — that received the recalled beef. There have been no reported illnesses from the meat, and agriculture officials emphasized that the chances of someone becoming sick was slim. While praising the release of the school information, a U.S. representative from Connecticut said the Department of Agriculture should also release a complete list of retail stores that received the recalled beef. The list of school districts that received the beef is available at an agency [Web site](#).

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/03/28/business/28beef.html?hp>

24. *March 27, Farm Business Communications* – (International) **NAFTA partners standardize breeding cattle trade.** A deal to harmonize North America to international standards for trade in breeding cattle will end a ban by several U.S. state governments against Canadian breeding stock entering Mexico through their border ports. The three North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, Canada, the U.S., and Mexico, announced Thursday that they have agreed to harmonize trade between the three countries to World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) standards. The U.S. Department of Agriculture said the new trade protocol is to take effect Friday. The deal ends a ban imposed March 4 by the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) on the movement of Canadian cattle through state facilities en route to Mexico. The ban was later supported by neighboring New Mexico, Arizona, and California, TDA noted in a release Thursday. Texas had imposed the ban in protest of Mexico's decision in late February to allow imports of certain Canadian breeding stock, while Mexico's ban on

U.S. breeding cattle, dating back to 2003, continued.

Source:

http://www.canadiancattlemen.ca/issues/ISArticle.asp?id=82074&issue=03272008&story_id=&PC=FBC

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Water Sector

25. *March 28, WFLA 8 Tampa* – (Florida) **Neglected toxic waste plume worries neighborhood.** A toxic plume of industrial waste discovered by workers 17 years ago is now coursing through groundwater under an Azalea neighborhood, according to samples drawn from test wells. Many residents did not have a clue about the chemical cocktail creeping through the water table. There are hundreds of private irrigation wells within the area of possible contamination. However, neither the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) nor Raytheon Network Centric Systems has alerted homeowners to the south, even though they have known for three years that the plume is migrating toward that neighborhood. Raytheon inherited the pollution problem from E-Systems, the defense plant's former owner. Company officials say newsletters were sent out in 1999 detailing the contamination problem at the company's local plant site. They offer no evidence, however, of where the newsletters went or of notifying homeowners within the past three years, when environmental technicians hired by the company found the plume had spread. The pollutants include such industrial chemicals as 1,4-dioxane, TCE, and vinyl chloride, all considered hazardous to humans. Under certain circumstances, exposure to some of the chemicals could be fatal. The company said there is no danger. The DEP said there is no risk to people because no one drinks the groundwater. The DEP established in the early 1990s that no one was drinking the contaminated groundwater and that the agency has not had reason for concern since signing a consent order in 1995 making E-Systems deal with the problem. Drinking the water, however, is not the only danger, according to one local groundwater expert. "It sounds like in that particular neighborhood a lot of people have private irrigation wells where they draw irrigation water from their own property, which means there probably is an exposure route for those people," said an assistant professor at the University of South Florida who specializes in the cleanup of contaminated soil and water.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2008/mar/28/na-neglected-toxic-waste-plume-worries-neighborhoo/>

26. *March 28, Pueblo Chieftain* – (Colorado) **Salmonella source may never be found.** The source of the salmonella contamination in the city water system in Alamosa, Colorado, may never be discovered, according to the state official leading the response to the outbreak. The city's salmonella-tainted water is being blamed for 286 illnesses in the nearly three weeks since the first case was reported. The city launched a chlorine treatment to clean the system Tuesday and was nearing the close of the first stage Thursday night. The emergency response coordinator for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment told the city council late Wednesday that health and water quality experts have looked at three theories for the contamination, including cross-contamination by another water source. Experts from Denver Water are still

investigating that possibility. She said contamination of the city's water storage facilities was being investigated as another possibility. A third theory was that a potential crack in one of the water lines allowed for contamination to enter when low pressure occurred. The emergency response coordinator emphasized, however, that the contamination did not come from the groundwater, which city wells draw from the confined or deeper of the two aquifers that run beneath much of the San Luis Valley. "I want to make it clear it was not your well," she said.

Source: <http://www.chieftain.com/metro/1206684000/1>

27. *March 27, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Metal thieves spill chemical into Benton County pond.** Scrap metal thieves who sawed down a decommissioned power pole caused an estimated \$100,000 worth of damage and spilled roughly 180 gallons of oil mixed with a hazardous chemical. The Benton County Sheriff's Office said the theft of \$443 worth of copper wiring was reported to police last week. It happened on property owned by the Knife River Corporation. Authorities believe the chemical might have spilled into a nearby pond. A clean-up specialist says Knife River hired a private contractor to contain and investigate potential contamination.

Source: <http://www.kval.com/news/local/17051616.html>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *March 28, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Man kills three at Georgia hospital.** A retired teacher, bearing a grudge over his mother's treatment at a Columbus, Georgia, hospital where she died, fatally shot one of her nurses, another employee, and a man outside Thursday before police shot him, authorities said. The suspect is being charged with murder and will be turned over to police after an overnight stay in another hospital, where he was treated for a shoulder wound, the police chief said. The chief said the gunman arrived at Doctors Hospital with three pistols, including a 9 mm automatic and a .38-caliber revolver, and went to the fifth-floor intensive care unit where his mother had been in 2004.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2008/US/03/27/hospital.shootings.ap/index.html>

29. *March 28, Reuters* – (International) **India culls poultry to contain bird flu.** Thousands of chickens have been culled in a bid to contain an outbreak of bird flu in West Bengal, India, which has struggled to control the virus since January. West Bengal briefly contained the outbreak by culling nearly four million birds in 13 of its 19 districts, but the virus has intermittently resurfaced. On Friday, officials said the virus had spread to Jalpaiguri, the 14th district to be hit by bird flu this year. "We are trying our best to convince villagers to hand over chickens and ducks for culling, but they are hiding the birds inside their homes," West Bengal's animal resources minister said by telephone. India has so far not reported any human infections. Experts fear the H5N1 strain could mutate into a form easily transmitted from person to person, leading to a pandemic.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080328/india_nm/india327367_1;_ylt=Alx5brTdlmbBJRx2AIwl.1OTvyLi

30. *March 27, Workforce Management* – (National) **Health agencies grapple with labor shortage.** Nearly half of the 500,000 public health workers nationwide will be eligible to retire during the next five years. Health departments report that 20 percent of their jobs are unfilled and the turnover rate is 14 percent. An outbreak of food poisoning or West Nile virus draws attention to public health agencies. After the emergency passes, they tend to fade into the background as they conduct low-profile work like improving maternal and infant care. Such anonymity causes a problem when the organizations try to replace their nurses, epidemiologists, and laboratory technicians. Those roles fail to spark the imagination of college students and other potential workers – even while demand for health services rises because of worries about pandemic viruses and bioterrorism. “We are facing a crisis in our public health workforce,” says a former deputy secretary for public health services in Maryland.

Source: <http://www.workforce.com/section/00/article/25/44/52.html>

Government Facilities Sector

31. *March 28, KSAT 12 San Antonio* – (Texas) **1 dead, 15 hurt in prison riot.** One prison inmate was killed and 15 others were hurt following a riot Friday at a federal prison in Three Rivers, Texas. No prison staff members were injured. How the inmate died is still under investigation. Prison officials do not believe that guards used any potentially lethal force to break up the fight. The prison is a medium security facility that houses male inmates and is located about 80 miles south of San Antonio.

Source: <http://www.ksat.com/news/15731317/detail.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

32. *March 28, News Blaze* – (California) **Test of tsunami warning system in Humboldt County successful.** Officials from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (OES), the Humboldt County Office of Emergency Services, and the National Weather Service (NWS) are evaluating the success of today’s first-ever “live” tsunami warning test that was transmitted over the Emergency Alert System (EAS). The test, which began at 10:15 a.m., marked the first time the actual, or “live,” tsunami code was used during a test in the 48 contiguous states. The test began with EAS activation and transmission of the test message via local radio and television stations, as well as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) Weather Radio system. Initial results indicate that there were no unanticipated technology issues, and that no emergency 9-1-1 calls were made to safety answering points. “Although the test is still being assessed, I’m confident that the information we glean from this exercise and the public feedback will help us save lives and reduce injuries when a real tsunami or other emergency occurs,” said the OES director. Evaluation of the test will include analysis of the NWS tsunami activation sequence, how well television and radio stations received the EAS messages, how well each station was able to re-transmit the message without

issue, and the public's response to the exercise.

Source:

<http://newsblaze.com/story/20080327051508tsop.nb/newsblaze/TOPSTORY/TopStories.html>

33. *March 27, Eagle-Tribune* – (Massachusetts) **Danvers chiefs push tougher chemical-plant regulations.** Fire chiefs from around Massachusetts joined yesterday in calling for stricter regulation of chemical processing to head off an explosion like the one that rocked Danversport in November 2006. About 30 fire chiefs from the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts, Inc. stood in the bay of the Danvers Fire Department urging Beacon Hill lawmakers to pass a bill to address a dearth of regulations on chemical processing by Bay State firms great and small. The program would require plants of all sizes to provide a chemical processing safety plan to the State Fire Marshal's Office, where a team of experts would audit the plans at least twice a year. "If that had happened in the Danvers incident, they probably would have found shortcomings in the processes that would have prevented what happened there that night," said Danver's chief. The Danvers Fire Department and others like it do not have the expertise on staff to inspect chemical plants for how they mix chemicals. While chemical storage is regulated at the state and local levels, chemical processing is not. The bill, which has been working its way through the Legislature, would also create a database of companies that mix chemicals, including information on the types and amounts of chemicals they are storing. The November 22, 2006, explosion at the CAI Inc. and Arnel Corp. ink and paint plants damaged 250 buildings, destroyed 19 of them, injured 20 people, including two firefighters, and damaged scores of vehicles, according to a recent report by the State Fire Marshal's Office.

Source: http://www.eagletribune.com/punews/local_story_087234444.html

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Information Technology

34. *March 27, IDG News Service* – (National) **Google: Web sites slow to fix serious Flash flaws.** Two months after Adobe Systems patched a serious flaw in its Flash development software, there are still hundreds of thousands of Web pages serving up buggy Shockwave Flash (.swf) files that could be exploited by hackers, according to a Google researcher. The Google security engineer discovered the widespread vulnerability in his spare time while researching a book on Web security. It turned out that many Flash development tools created files that could be used by hackers in what is known as a cross-site scripting attack. This attack can be used in phishing, but it also gives the bad guys a nearly undetectable route into a victim's bank account or almost any type of Web service. The researcher estimates that more than 10,000 Web sites are still affected by the issue. He first noticed the bug on Google's Web site and tracked down the Google employee responsible for the flaw: a sales representative who had been using Dreamweaver to create buggy Flash files. The bug was in other Flash development tools too, but Adobe and others quickly patched their software after the findings were disclosed.

Source:

http://www.infoworld.com/archives/emailPrint.jsp?R=printThis&A=/article/08/03/27/Google-Web-sites-slow-to-fix-serious-Flash-flaws_1.html

35. *March 27, Computerworld* – (Washington) **Washington state passes RFID anti-spying law.** Washington's governor this week signed a bill making it a Class C felony to use radio frequency identification (RFID) technology to spy on someone. The bill was signed about a week after the Washington State Senate unanimously passed Bill 1031, which makes it a crime to intentionally scan people's IDs remotely, without their knowledge and consent, for the purpose of fraud, identity theft, or some other illegal purpose. The bill specifically cites RFID and facial recognition technology. Violators face a prison sentence of up to 10 years. In addition, if the illegally gathered data is used in a separate crime, up to 10 years could be added to whatever sentence violators receive for the second crime. "Our intent was to put some basic rules of the road in place," said a state congressman. "As the technology is being deployed, it needs to be done in a way that the public won't sense there's a huge violation to their privacy rights. My fear is that state legislatures are good at being reactionary when something atrocious happens. We wanted to be ahead of this one." The congressman, who sponsored the bill, noted that Washington state began using enhanced driver's licenses this winter. The new licenses use RFID tags and can be used at the Canadian/U.S. border crossing instead of a passport. In light of these new ID cards and the growing number of RFID-based customer-loyalty cards and company ID cards, he said it was time for a law that protects people's privacy. The law, which goes into in July, focuses on skimming or lifting information from RFID tags without the knowledge of the owner.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=mobile_and_wireless&articleId=9072438&taxonomyId=15&intsrc=kc_top

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

36. *March 28, IDG News Service* – (International) **Analyst: Money will lead to more mobile spying programs.** Spying programs for mobile phones are likely to grow in sophistication and stealth as the business of selling spying tools grows, according to a mobile analyst at the Black Hat conference on Friday. Many of the spy programs on the market are powerful, but are not very sophisticated code, said a senior antivirus researcher at Finnish security vendor F-Secure, which makes security products for PCs and mobile phones. But there is increasing evidence that money from selling the tools will create a stronger incentive for more accomplished programmers to get into the game, which could make the programs harder to detect, he said. He said his prediction

follows what has happened with the malware writers in the PC market. Many hackers are now in the business of selling easy-to-use tools to less technical hackers rather than hacking into PCs themselves. One of the latest tools on the market is Mobile SpySuite, which he believes is the first spy tool generator for mobiles. It sells for \$12,500 and enables a hacker to custom-build a spy tool aimed at several models of Nokia phones, Niemela said. The number of mobile spyware programs pales in comparison to the number of such programs available for PCs. However, mobile spying programs are harder to track, since security companies such as F-Secure do not see as many samples circulating on the Internet as they do of malicious software for PCs. However, anecdotal evidence has emerged that enterprises may be increasingly encountering mobile spyware on their fleets of phones.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9072798&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *March 28, Examiner* – (District of Columbia) **D.C. police to enhance security at Nationals games.** The Metropolitan Police Department will spend about \$1.2 million to provide security at Nationals games, nearly doubling its presence from last year while assigning officers from around the city to ballpark duty, officials said. With two days to go until President Bush throws out the first pitch at the opening game, D.C. police officials were wrapping up their security strategy for the 82-game season. At least 50 officers will patrol the area near the stadium at every game, up from roughly half that number a year ago, officials said. Adding to the challenge of protecting and moving up to 41,888 people in and out of the Near Southeast neighborhood, the police department will be responsible for paying the cost of the presence. The Special Operations Division will deploy about 40 officers a game, up from 25 last year, at least early in the season as fans and the District grow accustomed to the movement of large crowds in and out of the Near Southeast neighborhood, said an assistant chief, who oversees the unit.

Source: http://www.examiner.com/a-1306615~D_C_police_to_enhance_security_at_Nationals_games.html

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to Report

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Dams Sector

38. *March 28, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Restoring trust a challenge for Kennecott.** Kennecott assured residents of Magna, Colorado, that the seismic dangers once facing

its mine-waste impoundment have been fixed. In some quarters, public trust could come slowly for Kennecott in the wake of reports that the company hid in the early 1990s that a major earthquake could rupture a 5,700-acre impoundment and unleash an ooze of mine tailings into their homes. The company's president called for a third-party examination of the dike's safety Thursday and pledged to compensate residents for any lost property values if the investigation finds that the tailings pile still threatens homes. The overseer of the state's Dam Safety Office backed that assertion early this week by saying the impoundment – which Kennecott spent millions to modernize – is “basically safe,” even if its earthen embankments were shaken by a massive temblor.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/ci_8725599

39. *March 28, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* – (Florida) **Lake Okeechobee dike repairs will be tested.** While south Florida politicians push for more money to strengthen Lake Okeechobee's aging dike, engineering crews and scientists are closing in on a critical review to see if their fix will work. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers within the next two weeks expects to finish analyzing the initial 500-foot section of a wall built through the middle of the earthen dike and billed as the solution to avoiding a New Orleans-style breach. If the mixture of sand, grout, and stone turns out to be too weak, it could fail to stop the erosion threatening to lead to flooding. If the wall is “too strong,” it could lack the flexibility needed to avoid breaking under the pressure exerted on the levee that surrounds the 730-square-mile lake, said a Corps spokeswoman. Once testing is completed, work begins on the next 3,500-foot stretch along the southeastern portion of the lake. The new reinforcement project aims to prevent “piping,” where water seeps through the mix of sand, shell, and clay within the dike and creates cavities that can collapse, leading to a breach and flooding. Under the new method, a large drill with a blade like a chain saw cuts into the dike and injects a grout mixture that combines with the rock and sand inside the levee to form a 27-inch-wide wall. Outside the dike, a reinforcing berm is being built to help strengthen the structure.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/palmbeach/sfl-flplakeo0328pnmar28,0,5285714.story>

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